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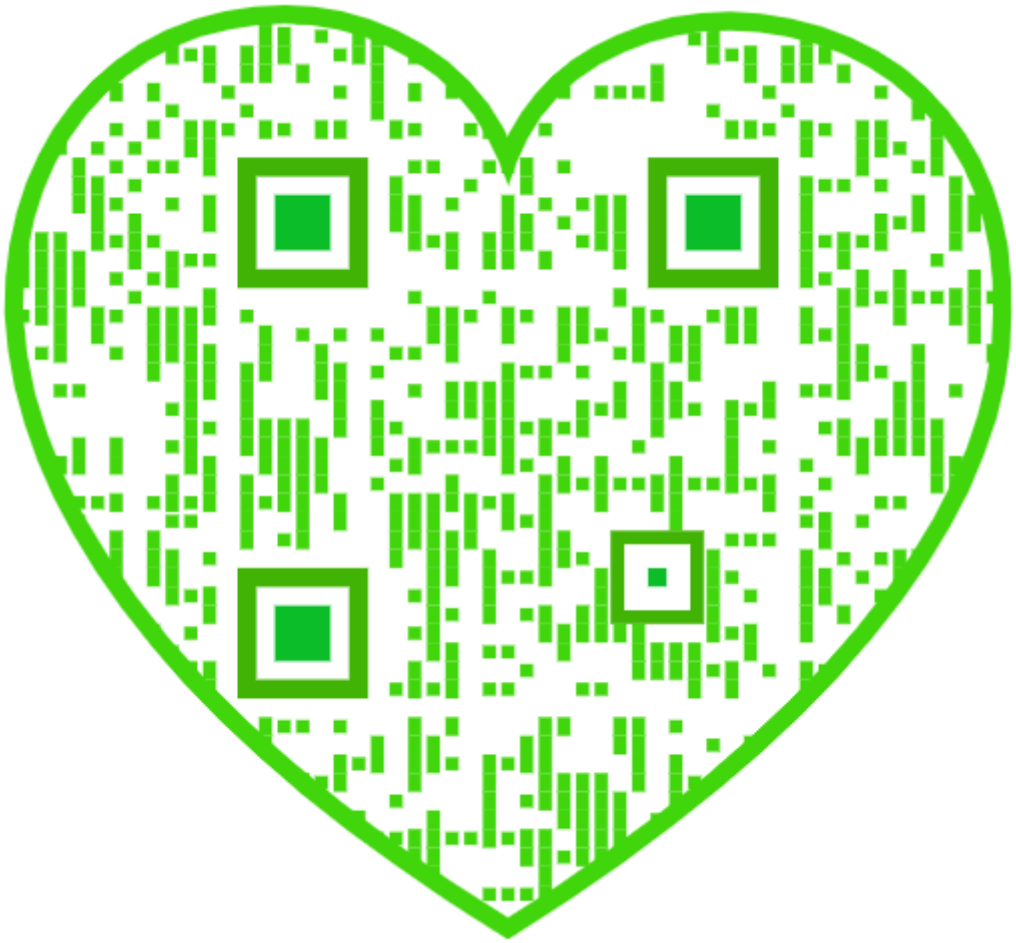

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THE BETTER WAY

—OR—

Lessons in Wisdom, Truth and Love

A BOOK OF SIMPLE HELPS

FOR MOMENTS OF NEED

BY W. H. WHEELER

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said: "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."

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For further Explanations, see Preface

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This little book is a reprint (rearranged, revised and indexed) of the first seven numbers of a little paper called THE BETTER WAY. From time to time the book will be enlarged from the same source. But meanwhile those interested are invited to subscribe for the paper itself, thus getting the new material as it comes from the press, month by month. I hardly need say that these are not meant to be essays; but rather simple helps and reminders for busy men and women in their hours of *weakness* and *need*. As such they should be judged; as such they have already proved helpful to many. May God accept and use them still more; such is the writer's earnest prayer. Of course they are incomplete; for there are hundreds of subjects to be discussed, and many things to be said about each. But a beginning is, at least, made, and in this we rejoice.

Be sure and use the index freely; as it will suggest many lines of thought and work well worth your study.

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The Better Way.

ADVICE. (1)

1:1. *Shall I Take It?*—"If the advice be good take it, no matter who gives it;" for even fools and enemies can sometimes teach us something which we need to know. But, if you are advised to do something which your deeper self forbids, or even does not clearly consent to, DON'T DO IT, no matter how kindly or positively the advice is given.

1:2. *Cross References.*—Talking Too Long, 53:2. Advising Discouraged People, 17:1. The Final Decision, 19:2.

1:3. *Kindred Topics In Other Parts of the Book.*—Criticising and Talking; Helping and Example; Truth and, too often, mere Guess Work.

ANGER. (2)

2:1. *Is it Right to Get Angry?*—If by anger you mean simply a very great disapproval of what another has done, or is doing (as in Eph. 4:26, and Ps. 7:11), then the answer is: Yes, anger is sometimes right; namely, when selfish or foolish elements do not get mixed up with it. But this is not the usual meaning of the word; for it nearly always refers to a more or less *excited* and *unpitying* disapproval of what another has done, the excitement showing itself in at least a slight tendency to lose your self-control and act or *feel* unwisely or selfishly. And I venture to say that ninety-nine times out of a hundred, when we are forced to admit to others, or in our own secret thought, that we are angry, this is the definition of anger which applies to our case. Is it right, then, to get angry? Most emphatically, no, *no matter how great the provocation*; though undoubtedly some fits of anger, secret or open, bring upon us far greater condemnation than others do; for some are only seriously faulty outbursts of just indig-

nation on seeing real wrong done, while others are full of selfishness and meanness.

But if anger is wrong, how can we distinguish it in ordinary life from a disapproval and indignation which are right? In answering this important question, I would recommend the following tests: (1) If you are at all inclined to act or think recklessly; (2) if you find it at all hard to remember the few or many good points of the one whose acts you are condemning; or (3) if you are in the least inclined to excuse your own faults, because his or hers seem greater than yours; then you may be sure that your better self has lost control, and that your disapproval or indignation, *however justifiable at first*, is so no longer, and should be speedily tied up and conquered, by love, prayer, forgiveness, silence and solitude, and such other helps as you find most effective.

Let us disapprove of wrong-doing most emphatically; let us show our indignation very plainly, if need be; but let us beware of getting angry. For anger, even at its very best, does much harm, and greatly lessens the good effects of even a just rebuke.

2:2. *Fighting it Out the Same Day.*—When roused to fits of wholly unjustifiable anger, or of well-grounded anger carried too far, there is at least one thing which we *can do*, and always *should do*. We can seize or make an opportunity, before the day closes, to prayerfully fight it out in our own minds, not letting the matter drop into the forgotten past, till the better side of our nature gets a clear and decisive victory. If you cannot get the time in any other way, take it from sleep; for otherwise your whole life will be slowly poisoned by unrebuked hatred and untamed anger.

But how can we tell when the better side of our nature has got the victory? The answer is that anger will change to a more quiet disapproval, and side by side of this disapproval will spring up a hearty willingness to be of service to the one who has offended us, in any and every way that our better self suggests or approves.

2:3. *Helps in Regaining Your Self-Control When Angry.*—(For the use of those who are in danger of acting, speaking or feeling angrily or unwisely and really wish to control themselves.) First: He deserves punishment, and will get it in due time, but it is not *my work* to give it. Second: He needs rebuke, but now is not the *time* to give it. Third: He deserves rebuke; but his own conscience is giving him all he can stand now; and, fourthly: Perhaps he does not deserve quite as severe a rebuke as I should give.

For Full List of Topics See Index.

2:4. *Cross References.*—Two Fools Instead of One, 54:2. How to Tame a Quick Temper, 54:1.

2:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Temper, Crossness, Drudgery and Criticising too much.—For opposites see Patience (Section 45.)

BESETTING SINS. (3)

3:1. *How to Overcome Them.*—If there is some one sin which you seem powerless to overcome, even after honest, prayerful effort, I would advise you for a while to watch more closely for other *seemingly more trifling faults*, and to overcome these more fully, by patient, prayerful effort. Then you will find that somehow or other, you know not how, the besetting sin which at first you could not conquer has greatly lessened its hold on you, and can now be fought against successfully.

3:2. For Kindred Topics see Doing Wrong.

BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS. (4)

4:1. *How to Read.*—Do not trouble yourself to read very much, or to remember what you read. The chances are you cannot do it, even if you try. *Simply read with care:* labelling each part with a well-considered "Yes" or "No," or "Perhaps," or "I don't know about that," or "I don't understand that," and above all, so plan and choose your reading as to always start a few good clear seed thoughts and queries of your own. Do this, and all your reading will do you good, however soon forgotten; and more and more of it will stay by you; and above all, your power to see things clearly and correctly, and to use them wisely and effectively, will steadily increase.

4:2. *Reading Too Much.*—You cannot get strong by too much eating, neither can you get wise by too much reading (too much in all, or too much at one time). Yet we are all sorely tempted at times to forget or resist this simple law of mental hygiene and substitute *much* reading for *well digested* reading. But we always lose by it; and the only safe rule is to stop reading for a while at least whenever we have any doubt as to whether it will be good for us. Nor should we go on reading till the doubt is [1]cleared away, or [2]duty *very clearly* bids us disregard it. For the doubt generally proves that the mind has something more important for our brain to do, or else is working out successfully some better way of doing the work in hand.

4:3. *Laying Up Treasure for Others.*—Don't read simply for yourself. There are some things worth remembering and keeping because some friend or neighbor of yours may sometime need them.

4:4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Talking, Studying and Truth; and, in index, see opinion, thought, news, arguments and others.

BURDENS—GREAT AND SMALL. (5)

5:1. *How to Bear Them More Easily.*—Remember that God is willing to help you in bearing your burdens; the only conditions being that God as the wiser partner (I. Cor. 3:9) must be allowed to do most of the planning, and that *you* must do *your* part heartily, and as well as you know how, *however small it may be.*

5:2. *But Just What is God's Part?*—It is not simply in the most important matters that God offers to give and send us help. For if we ask and trust Him He stands ready to help us in everything that is *even a little* too hard for us. Only let us remember that we must let Him decide just *how* the needed help shall come; and freely consent to His changing our plans for us whenever He sees best.

5:3. *Tomorrow's Burdens.*—Do not carry tomorrow's burdens today; for the morrow shall carry its own. Sufficient unto each day are the burdens thereof; and according to each day's need shall strength be given to those who ask it.

(Free Translation of Matt. 6: 34 and Deut. 33: 25.)

5:4. *Cross Reference.*—The Bright Side, 36:1.

5:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Patience and Prayer; Godliness and Christlikeness. Also see the list of Kindred Topics given under Suffering, 52:4.

BUSINESS. (6)

6:1. *Our Motives in Business.*—Our CHIEF AIM in business, (as in everything else) should be to make each act a *wise*[1] and *real*[2] contribution to the general good; and if you make the simple getting of *money* your chief end in life or in business, you may succeed, but even if you do, you will be far less happy and really comfortable and honored, than many another man whom you try hard to despise because he has less property than you have.

6:2. *Returning Borrowed Money Promptly.*—Never keep borrowed money a single hour beyond the time appointed for its return, if it

be in your power by any honest means to return it promptly; for disappointment will often close a man's purse against you forever.

[SELECTED]

6:3. *Cross References.*—How to Start Up the Ladder, 32:1, and Simply Yes or No, 19:2.

6:4. *Kindred Topics.*—The book is full of them; but especially see Dishonesty and Money; Work, Drudgery and Rest; Time-Using, Opportunities and Restlessness; Guess-Work and Excuses; Little Things and Hints for Hard Times; Helping others and Watchfulness.

CARELESSNESS. (7)

7:1. *Its Consequences.*—The man who does his work, or makes his plans carelessly is sure to get into trouble.

7:2. *Cross References.*—Carelessness and Failure, 32:1. Despising Little Opportunities, and What Comes of It, 44:1. Casting the Blame on Others, 58:1. Learning to Do Better by Example, 29:2.

7:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Guess-Work, Excuses and Little Things; Discouragement and Loneliness; Restlessness, Unhappiness and Besetting Sins.——For opposites see Watchfulness.

CHARACTER. (8)

8:1. *Where to Begin.*—The light that shines farthest *must shine brightly at home.* [SELECTED]

8:2. *A Pure Heart.*—"Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God," (Matt. 5:8); and if they see Him, they can't help trusting and enjoying Him. Yet it is not enough that our purposes alone be true, though that is our *greatest need.* Our *lives* must also be [1]true and [2]wise. For dirt is dirt, even if you honestly think it is gold; and folly is folly, even if you *think* it wisdom.

8:3. *Kindred Topics.*—Nearly every section in the book; but especially Godliness, Doing Right and Home; and the Kindred Topics there given. Also see "Ways of Learning," in index.

CHEER AND CHEERFULNESS. (9)

9:1. *The Secret of Cheerfulness.*—Unless we are lovingly engaged in bringing cheer to other lives we cannot have much of it ourselves. For love is the very fountain head of all true cheer; and a cheer that has no love in it is a hollow and disappointing mockery, and an unsuccessful attempt to deceive ourselves and others, for we cannot long do it.

9:2. *When Cheer Grows Dim.*—But even in a loving heart cheer sometimes grows dim. What then? Why, simply stop your other work, however good it may be, and lovingly do some little thing which expresses your love *more simply* and *more wisely*, and it will not be long before things will look brighter.

9:3. *Making Good News Reports.*—Life is full of good news; but we often hear it and pass it on with only the faintest sort of an idea how good it is; thus losing much of the [1]cheer and [2]good that we *might have had*, had we known its worth. As a partial remedy for this tendency I would suggest occasionally sending or giving to your pastor, mother, or some other friend, little bits of news, specially marked "Good News." Especially would I advise giving them to those friends whose influence has proved the deepest and most lasting in giving to your life some new impulse upward or onward; and also to your gloomy friends, in a lighter but no less sincere and hearty way. (We can furnish sample Good News Cards and Leaflets by mail for two cents. But when you get started, you will not need a printed card, except for extra occasions.)

9:4. *Cross References.*—Only a Smile, 31:2. Patience and Sunshine, 45:1. Looking for Good News, 36:2. Helping Each Other in Heaven, 30:1.

9:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Love and Kindness; Patience and Thankfulness; Home and Prayer; Talking and silence.*

——For opposites see Discouragement and Loneliness.

CHILDREN. (10)

10:1. *Idle Hands.*—For Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do.

So reads the ancient rhyme, and it is true. So that one of your first and *most important* duties is to keep in mind a rich variety of simple kinds of [1]work and [2]play which your child likes; and also to find out what kinds of sticks and stones, boxes and papers, tin plates and cups, marbles and nails, wagons and dolls, and other *simple toys*, give the little one most pleasure, and to carefully lay aside and keep in different parts of the house a goodly supply of these, to keep the little brain pleasantly occupied in *studying* and using them when other kinds of work or play have lost their interest. Nor should you look on these as so much "truck;" but rather as among the choicest of your family treasures; for on a *proper* use of such little trifles depends a large part of your child's development of [1]character, [2]mind and [3]body.

*See Index.

10:2. *Letting the Children Help.*—Expect and require your children to help you, even if their help is at first rather troublesome; take care not to make their work too hard, too long or too monotonous for their childish powers; praise them heartily and lovingly for the work that is well done; and be patient and tender when it is done blunderingly, and patient and tender and firm when it is done unwillingly; and your reward will be a happier home than you can have in any other way. You will be happier yourself; and your children will be happier, and far more likely to remember and to use through life the lessons of truth and unselfishness which by word and example you are trying to teach them.

10:3. *Unaccountable Crossness.*—When a child who is ordinarily reasonable and loving, becomes suddenly very cross and seemingly unreasonable, *without apparent cause*— [1]hunger, [2]thirst (often for simple water, rather than milk)—[3]sleepiness or [4]some undetected physical pain is nearly always the cause. And even with unloving and selfish children, these account for a great deal; though there is added to them a sad confusion and wrongness in their motives and habits of thought and life.—Yet even such more or less excusable crossness should, for the child's good, be stopped; first and oftenest by tenderness, tact, and making haste to remove or lessen its causes and secondly, when these means fail, or only partially succeed, by the use of some sort of punishment, *side by side of the tenderness.*

10:4. *Children's Crossness in General.*—Crossness is not wholly due to selfishness; for it is always in part a protest against some mistake which those around have made in their treatment of the one who is cross. But it is a *blundering and confused protest*, and tends very strongly to degenerate into mere selfishness and meanness. Hence the need of punishment, of which we have already spoken, when other gentler means of stopping it prove a failure. The best punishment ordinarily is to make the child stay by itself in some other part of the room, until it is willing to try to control itself and is ready once more for more tender helps, which should then be given gladly, but quietly.

10:5. *Rebuking Needlessly or Too Sharply.*—We often misunderstand our inexperienced little neighbors, the children, and rebuke and condemn them, when all they need is a little caution and restraint.

[SELECTED]

10:6. *Going Into Repentance Corner Yourself.*—Remember that you, too, must sometimes go off alone into repentance corner and ask for forgiveness and help, and *wait till you get it* (Gen. 32:26); or you can-

not be as [1]wise and [2]patient and [3]tender and yet [4]firm as you should be in correcting your children and pupils.

10:7. *Your Example.*—If you want your children to believe what you teach them, or at least to *profit by it* you must really try to practice it yourself. You may not always succeed, and your children may know very well that you do not; *but if you really try*, and in a manly, womanly way acknowledge to them that you do fail, they will listen more attentively to what you say, and above all ponder it [1]often and [2]honestly in secret, and in years to come.

10:8. *Cross-Reference.*—Praying about Little Things, 48:1.

10:9. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Evenings, Home, Prayer and Jesus (Section 11;) Kindness, Love and Patience; Little Things and Restlessness; Drudgery and The Easy Way; THE CHILDREN'S CORNER and many others.

CHRISTLIKENESS. (11)

11:1. *Knowing Jesus Better.*—"Come unto me and I will give you rest" is still what Jesus says to the weary and heavy laden. But you cannot know how *good* a friend He is, until you come very near to Him, and consult him very often in all that rejoices or troubles you. For He can *help* you at a distance, but you cannot *enjoy* Him.

11:2. *Helping Others to Know Him.*—The more you love the Lord Jesus yourself, the more your friends will feel their need of Him; and some day, sooner or later, they will confess their need, and go to Him for help.

11:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Godliness, Goodness, Love, Helpfulness, Prayerfulness, Thankfulness, Watchfulness, Wisdom (Section 19) and Happiness; and many other related joys and secrets of joy.

CONSEQUENCES. (12)

Of Careful Reading, 4:1.
Of Careful Living, Sections 24 and 29.
Of Carlessness, 7:1.
Of Dishonesty, 18:1.
Of Despising Little Things, 44:1 and 37:1.
Of Doing Right in General, 29:1.
Of Doing Right *Cheerfully*, 19:3 and 29:5.
Of Doing Wrong, Section 58.
Of Gossip, 27:1.
Of Guess-Work, 28:1.
Of Getting Mad, 54:2.
Of Having a Pure Heart, 8:2.
Of Home Loving, 33:1.
Of Knowing Jesus Better, 11:1 and 2.
Of Love for the Truth, 57:3.
Of Patience, Section 45.

For Full List of Topics See Index.

Of Prayer, Section 48.
Of Really Serving God, 26:3.
Of Suffering, 36:1 and 52:1.
Of Talking Too Much, 53:1 and 2.
Of Thankfulness, 55:1.
Of Unwise or Unfriendly Criticism, 14:3 and 4.
Of Yielding to Restlessness, 50:1.
Of Choosing Your Work Recklessly, 56:1.

COURTSHIP AND MARRYING. (13)

13:1. *Smartness and Beauty.*—Some of the smartest men and brightest, prettiest women make very poor husbands and wives, because they are so selfish. There is no need of your marrying a man or woman who is dull, or one who is homely as a hedge fence, unless you choose to. And yet among those whom you count smart or pretty, be sure and choose one who is really lovely (worthy of love and full of love); for, if you are careless at this point, a hard and lonely life will prove that you, at least, were once a fool, whatever your companion may be. Yet there is no need of your making matters worse and showing that you are still a fool; for those who patiently and prayerfully teach themselves the lesson of *trusting God and forgiving man* will always find that even a lonely home is full of stepping stones toward peace and heaven and joy, more perfect joy than they have ever known before.

13:2. *Cross References.*—Praying Over It, 48:1. Taking Advice, 1:1, Not Going by Guess-Work, 28:1.

13:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Happiness and Unhappiness; Guess-Work and Excuses; Restlessness and The Easy Way; and Home and Little Things.

CRITICISING OTHERS. (14)

14:1. *Speaking Kindly.*—Speak kindly of others and you will be happier yourself; for even a man's faults can be spoken of kindly, and yet truly; and even the severest and most public rebuke may be full of a kindliness which cannot be forgotten, though unnoticed at the time.

14:2. *Despising Others.*—"He that is void of wisdom despiseth his neighbor," (Prov. 11:12). But a true and wise man sees another's faults and wrong doings and in proper ways *rebukes* and *punishes* him for them and still pities him and helps him, tenderly and truly, in such ways as he can.

14:3. *Condemning Too Persistently.*—Whenever you find yourself inclined to dwell on the faults of others one moment longer than is

plainly your duty, you will always find that there is something badly out of order in your own life; and will also make others hate the very truth you love.

14:4. *Poisoning Your Own Life.*—Try to never speak or *think* triumphingly or *needlessly* of the meanness or faults of others; for if you are not careful at this point, your own life will gradually become mean and narrow, even in a good cause.

14:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Advice, Books and Talking; Patience and Drudgery; Differences of Opinion and Guess Work.—For Unfriendly Criticism, see 15:3.

CROSSNESS. (15)

15:1. *Crossness in Adults.*—How are we grown-up people to overcome *our own* crossness? Let us see; what is crossness? A mingling of disappointment and anger (only unaccompanied by any wish to injure). Like all other forms of anger, then, we should fight it out with ourselves prayerfully, *the very same day*, never waiting till tomorrow (Section 2:2); and secondly, we should try not to have as many *must-be* plans as we do, and not to make our plans and expectations quite as *stiff* and *set* as we do, so that we will not be disappointed, if every detail does not turn out as we supposed or hoped it would. For if our larger aims in life are well chosen, and we are really careful and watchful in our work moment by moment, a great many details, and sometimes even the larger outlines of our plans, can be best determined on the spur of the moment, and *seemingly* almost without thought.

15:2. *Cross References.*—Unaccountable Crossness in Children, 10:3. Children's Crossness in General, 10:4. Too Much Pepper, B:7. Feeling Ashamed of It, B:8.

15:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Differences of Opinion and Overwork;* Anger, Temper, Unhappiness and *too much* Criticising.—For opposites see Patience.

DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. (16)

16:1. *Why Honest Men Can Differ.*—Truth is very many-sided and man's mind is rather slow and pretty easily confused on unfamiliar ground; so that a man may be just as level headed and honest as you are and still fail in seeing many of the truths and half-truths which

*See Index.

you have seen. Remember this and be patient; and patience will bring you nearer to your neighbor and to God, even if you *seem* to be as far apart as ever.

16:2. *Kindred Topics.*—[Ignorance,] Guess-Work and the Largeness of Truth (Section 57.) For unfriendly differences of opinion see Misunderstandings.*

DISCOURAGEMENT. (17)

17:1. *How to Help Discouraged People.*—Do not argue with a discouraged person. Just show your love simply and tenderly; and get them to stop and rest a while. Then *later*, when the first storm of discouragement is over, make such explanations and suggestions as you can; but not till then, and even then don't give too big a dose.

17:2. *Cross References.*—Exaggerating Our Misfortunes, 41:1. How to Get God's Help, 5:1 and 48:1. Just How Much is God Willing to Do, 5:2. What Does God Require of Us? 26:2. How to Start up the Ladder, 32:1. Don't Carry God's Part of the Burden, 59:1 and 19:4.

17:3 *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Rest, Loneliness and Guess-Work. Also Blues.* Opposites, more hopefulness* and more trust in God, 26:6 and 5:1.

DISHONESTY. (18)

18:1. The dishonest man is always an unhappy man.

18:2. Call your dishonesty by some other name, and you *may* fool others; but you cannot long deceive yourself.

18:3. *Cross Reference.*—Dishonesty in "One Little Thing," 58:3.

18:4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Excuses and Money; Restlessness, Wrong-Doing and Unhappiness. For opposites see Doing Right.

DOING RIGHT. (19)

19:1. *Meaning of the Words Right and Wrong* (When Correctly Used in Settling a Question of Present Duty).—Wrong is not what men *call* wrong, or *think* wrong, or can *prove* to be wrong; and right is not what men *call* right, or *think* right, or can *prove* to be right; though all of these, *if honestly used*, may help in making a man stop and consider. But right is what a man's deeper, quieter, more silent self tells him he ought to do, *now* and *here*; and wrong is that which his deeper, quieter, more silent self tells him he ought *not* to do. Obey

*See Index.

this still, small voice of duty within, and you will find peace, for God and truth are with it; resist it, and you cannot find peace, and even your successes will be disappointing failures.

19:2. *Simply Yes or No.*—Elaborate arguments and more simple word proofs are often exceedingly helpful in finding out what it is *probably* best for us to do; also in deciding tentatively matters where mistakes can very easily be corrected; and also when we are talking about matters which cannot be settled in any other way. But in questions of present duty, where so much always turns on the decisions of a single minute, our actual decisions, both great and small, should always have a surer and safer basis than mere word-proofs can possibly furnish. In these the only safe answer to give is a [1]simple, [2]quiet, [3]honest Yes or No; for the simplest and quietest answer, if honest, will most nearly express the leadings of our deeper, better life, and so bring us nearer to God and right.

19:3. *Godliness and Love of Right.*—Be sure and never separate the two; for true godliness without love of right is impossible; and trying to do right, without often asking God's help, is but a sad groping in the dark. For without His help we are very weak, but in Him we are strong; and the way which he approves, though sometimes hard, is always pleasantest, *if we enter on it willingly*.

19:4. *What to Do When in Doubt.*—When, in a question of duty, you can not tell which of several ways is right and wise, *you should not decide either way now*; for guess-work in such matters is fatal; but should AT ONCE go to making [1]simple, [2]restful, [3]quiet and [4]prayerful changes in your surroundings, and, if possible, find some simple piece of *work* which helps you to look at life more quietly and truly. Then the more perplexing subject is sure to soon clear up, *if it is really your duty or privilege to solve it.* Or if it does not clear up, *your* duty will at least become clear; for conscience will soon plainly bid you leave the whole matter in God's hands. For that which is too hard for us He is always willing to take as His part of the responsibility and work, and we only bring confusion into our own lives and others by meddling.

And even if you are so much in the dark that you cannot seem sure of anything, just [1]postpone your bigger plans, [2]give yourself up heartily to seemingly trifling duties, and [3]honestly try, moment by moment, to come as near right as you can; and you will find later on that you have been *helped* and *blessed* and have gained ground in manhood, usefulness and happiness in spite of your perplexity.

For Full List of Topics See Index.

19:5. *Apparent Confusion Between Right and Wrong.*—The reason why there is at times so much apparent confusion between right and wrong is that in our [1]ignorance, [2]haste or [3]pride we have called something right that is really wrong, or something wrong that is really right. Then the confusion begins, and never wholly ends, till we patiently hunt up and correct our mistake.

19:6. *Don't Stop to Explain.*—When obliged to [1]act very quickly, and also when [2]*tempted*, or very [3]tired, be *sure* you are *right* before you act, (that is to say be honestly sure that your quieter, better self approves of your [1]doing as you do, and [2]doing it *now*); but don't stop to talk much about it with [1]yourself or [2]any one else; for many words are only a source of weakness and confusion at such times as these.

19:7. *Is the Right Way Always Easy and Pleasant?*—No, it is not always easy; for there are some very hard places in it. But it is generally easy; and all the hard places in this path of duty are but STEPPING STONES to some *special blessing* (generally unseen at the time). And furthermore you will find that *most* of the hard places in life, and *all* of the seemingly unbearable ones are of our own making, when for a season our trust in God or right grows dim.

But is it a pleasant way? *Yes, for him who walks in it willingly.* And it grows pleasanter and pleasanter year by year; whereas the wrong way grows less and less pleasant as the days go by.

19:8. *Cross References.*—Doing Right and Happiness, 29:1 and 5. Doing Right Willingly and Gladly, 19:7 and 29:5.

19:9. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Godliness, Helpfulness, Happiness; Watchfulness, Home and Business; Consequences and Example; and scores of others; for a right and happy life is very many sided. For the opposite of Doing Right see Doing Wrong.

DOING WRONG. (20)

20:1. *Does it Pay.*—There are some wrong and foolish things which we keep on doing through sheer desperation, or in moments of excitement, though we are sadly aware that it does not pay. On these we have already touched many times under Godliness, Doing Right, Prayer and Besetting Sins. But there are some wrong and foolish things so seemingly harmless, or even helpful, that we cannot escape from them until we form the habit of very pointedly and honestly asking ourselves this question, "DOES IT PAY?" and insisting on a simple "Yes" or "No" for an answer.

For Full List of Topics See Index.

20:2. *Doing Wrong in Little Things.*—Doing wrong in little things has ruined more lives and saddened more hearts than doing wrong in great ones. For few men are blind enough to *deliberately* do wrong in great things; but we are all tempted in little ones.

20:3. *Cross References.*—Doing Wrong in "One Little Thing," 58:3. Doing Wrong and Unhappiness How Related, 58:1.

20:4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Guess-Work, Besetting Sins and Excuses; and Consequences and Unhappiness. For opposites see Doing Right.

DRUDGERY. (21)

21:1. *Why Do We Sometimes Hate Our Work.*—Work may very properly be hard and disagreeable; but when it seems like *drudgery*, you will always find either that you are doing it very aimlessly or very blunderingly or else you have got your mind filled full of unkind and and unfriendly thoughts about those for whose good you are doing it; and whichever be the cause, a little honest watching at these three points will almost always show where the trouble lies, and help you in doing better.

21:2. *Kindred Topics.*—Crossness, Temper and Criticising too much; Guess-work, Haste* and Idleness.* For opposites see in the index Enthusiasm and Earnestness.

THE EASY WAY. (22)

22.1. *When to Choose It*—Yes, the right way is generally an easy way; but every easy way isn't right; and sometimes the right way is very hard for a while (*though crowned with a rich reward*). So never choose the easiest way, till you are sure it's right.

22:2. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Watchfulness, Earnestness* and Prayer; Guess-Work, Carelessness and Wrong-Doing; Rest, Patience and Suffering.—For opposites see Suffering.

OUR EVENINGS. (23)

23:1. The day is for labor; the evening for rest, inspiration and home. Let each have its share. [SELECTED]

23:2. *Kindred Topics.*—See Rest, Cheer and Home.

*See Index.

EXAMPLE. (24)

24:1. *A Good Example.*—If your life is lovely and true, a great many people will find it out after a while, and will gratefully, though often silently, love and honor you for it, even if you are one of the poorest or richest persons in the whole neighborhood.—And even if your life is not lovely yet, if it is slowly becoming a little more so day by day or year by year, this also will be known and remembered. No, my friend, you do not live alone, however lonely some parts of your life may be. Oh, how many lives that have silently helped me and others do I recall as I write these words.—No; love and trueness can never be lost.

24:2. *Learning by Example.*—Men are slow to learn by the failures of others; but by the success and wisdom and goodness of others we all learn something every day, though it often takes a long time to get it into practice.

24:3. *Cross References.*—Learning to Be Happy by Example, 29:2. Winning Others by Example, 11:2. Our Example at Home, 10:7.

24:4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Books and Home; Love and Consequences.

EXCUSES. (25)

"I Can't Help It".....3:1
"I Can't Tell What It's Right for Me to Do".....19:4
"I Did It Just for Fun".....40:1
"I Haven't Time".....56:1
"I Have No Chances".....44:1
"I've Got To".....60:1
"It's Some One Else's Fault That I'm so Unhappy".....58:1
"It's True, Anyway".....57:1 and 27:1
"But He Deserves It".....2:3
"He *Ought* to See the Point".....57:2

GODLINESS. (26)

26:1. *God Knows It All.*—Let us be glad that God knows all our sins and faults; for without His help we never can do better.

26:2. *But What Does God Require of Us?*—God does not expect you or me to do one whit more than we are able to, however little our

ability may be. Only remember that at some point or other your ability increases every day; for each new day reveals some little thing or other which you *can* do, but knew not of before, or at least knew not *how* to do.

26:3. *Lessons in Love.*—The longer we really serve God the more we love Him; and our love for God increases our love for men. Is not this pretty good evidence that He is a kind and wise master? even though He is sometimes stern? Yes; and even the sternness changes to tenderness, as soon as tenderness can bring a blessing.

26:4. *God's Larger Blessings.*—God does not even offer His larger blessings to everyone; but only to those who are willing to do *their part* day by day, and do it heartily and honestly; and are also willing to *let alone* His part. (See 5:1 and 19:4) For to give His larger blessings to others would be folly and wrong; though for every man God has *some blessings*, such as are suited to his blindness and need.

26:5. *God's Care.*—God cares for the world as truly when we are asleep as when we are awake. [C. C. TRACY]

26:6. *How to Get More Trust in God.*—First of all try honestly to do your duty day by day and hour by hour, as far as you can see it; secondly, watch for simple, natural ways of increasing your love for others, both great and small, both wise and foolish; thirdly, try not to mistake helpful guesses for certainty and helpful half-truths for perfectly correct statements of the whole truth; and, fourthly, make an earnest effort to crowd out, or at least postpone, (19:4) all subjects of thought which perplex and upset you by other thoughts and other work which are at least harmless and quieting even if seemingly almost useless. (See again 19:4) *Then you will begin to clearly see God's hand in life*, and your trust in Him will grow strong and hearty, even if at present you have but little trust, or none at all. And whenever men lose their faith in God, or talk about Him without really knowing Him, you will always find that in one or more of these four essentials of a healthy manhood they have sadly failed.

26:7. *How to Glorify and Enjoy Him.*—If we wish to "glorify God and enjoy Him" and also wish to have our testimony as to God's love and the pleasantness of right-doing count for much, we must not be satisfied with testifying in only one or two ways, but must rather seek and find *many ways* of testifying, all close akin, and yet all different. For in public acts and private acts, in rest and work, in weariness and energy, whether silent or speaking, in each of these, in all its forms,

an overflowing heart will somehow testify; and if we [1]often walk with God, and [2]love to turn to Him for His *rebuke* and *cheer*, then will this testimony not only be varied, but also full of power, and our own life full of joy.

26:8. *Cross References.*—Our Wiser Partner and the Help He Offers, 5:1. Trusting and Doing, B:3. Godliness and Worry, 59:1. Just What is God's Part? and What is Mine? 5:2 and 19:4.

26:9. *Kindred Topics.*—Doing Right and Love; Christlikeness and Prayer; and all the good things spoken of from one end of the book to the other.—For different sorts of Ungodliness and of Perplexity in regard to God see 26:6.

GOODNESS.—See Doing Right.

GOSSIP. (27)

27:1. *May Be True and Still be Gossip.*—"Gossip is not always telling lies; the most hurtful kind is sometimes speaking of the wrong-doing of others *unnecessarily*." For when you speak of such things unnecessarily, you [1]poison your hearer's life; [2]degrade your own; and [3]make it harder for the wrong doer to ever repent and do better.

27:2. *Cross References.*—Little Things That Darken Other Lives, 37:1. Two Fools Instead of One, 54:2. How and When to Use the Truth, 57:1.

27:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Guess Work and Meanness; Criticising Too Much and Talking Too Much; Besetting Sins and Doing Wrong.—For opposites see Helping Others (Section 31) and Good News Finders, 36:2 and 9:3.

GUESS WORK. (28)

28:1. *Going by Guess Work.*—DON'T GO BY GUESS WORK in deciding what to do or not to do, and you will save yourself and others a great deal of trouble.—For though we cannot always be sure whether our work will turn out just as we expect it to, or not, we always can by wise and honest searching (19:2) find a way which is *clearly right*, or at least a step in the right direction; and this is the way which always leads to blessing, especially when we walk it gladly. But guess work always brings restlessness first, and disappointment later.

28:2. *Cross References.*—What to Do When In Doubt, 19:4. Avoid Guess Work in Study, 51:3. Don't Always Choose the Easiest Way, 22:1. Don't Talk Too Much, 53:1.

28:3. *Kindred Topics.*—Carelessness and Excuses; [Appearances] and Doing Wrong; Restlessness and Temper. For hints as to the really safe and sure way, study the section on Doing Right (especially 19:2 and 4.

HAPPINESS. (29)

29:1. *Goodness and Happiness.*—The old saying, "Be good and you'll be happy," is not strictly true, as words are ordinarily used; for a man or woman may be *really good*, (though not perfectly good,) and yet be very unhappy much of the time. But if we change it, and say that DOING RIGHT ALWAYS MAKES US HAPPIER, then the words are strictly and grandly true; not only of saints and angels, but also of the most weak and inconsistent person that ever really tried to do right and took a step honestly in the right direction. But if you wish to find out how much of happiness there can be in life, you must [1]go on and [2]ask *God's* help, and with His help [3]take *many* steps in the right direction, though still taking them *one by one*; as the path of duty and of privilege is made plain to you from moment to moment, and day to day.

29:2. *Learning by Example.*—Be sure and study lovingly and often the best and happiest men and women you have ever known, and your own life will slowly drink in the secret of their happiness and become more and more like theirs. For though good men and women are often unhappy, because of the wrong things they mix in with the good ones, this much is certain, that the happiest men and women, though never perfect are always good. These are the ones to study.

29:3. *Finding Happiness in Your Work.*—The best place to hunt for happiness and the place where you will find *most* of it is in and around your regular work; and if you do your work with an eager desire to make others happier, and with a humble, hearty willingness to correct your faults as fast as you find out how it can be done, you are sure to find a *great deal* of happiness even in the work which is hardest and most common place.

29:4. *Longing for Happiness.*—Longing for happiness is perfectly proper; the only question is whether we have sense enough to hunt for it in the right way. For some of the ways men try only lead them farther and farther away from the happiness they long for.

29:5. *The Secret of Abundant Happiness.*—Happiness comes most abundantly to those who do right most cheerfully and fearlessly; and are thus so busy seeing good and doing good (and doing it *wisely*), that they see much reason for love and hope, and are not much tempted to worry, no matter what happens. But if you wish to learn this secret, you must begin to obey your wiser, better self with *equal care* in little things and in great.

29:6. *Cross References.*—Happiness and Poverty, 47:1. Happiness and Usefulness, 31:1 and 29:5. Enjoying God, 26:7 and 6. The Bright Side of Life, 36:1.

29:7. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Cheerfulness and Helpfulness; Godliness and Goodness; Christlikeness and Love.—For opposites see Unhappiness.

HARD TIMES.—See Hints for Hard Times.

HEAVEN. (30)

30:1. *Love and Helpfulness in Heaven.*—Even in heaven we shall need love and help, and shall be called upon to love and help others; for heaven would not be heaven without the sweet privilege of helping and being helped.

30:2. *Cross References.*—"Many Homes," a new translation of John 14:2, B:2. Helping Jesus in Heaven, B:12. Those Who Have Gone Before, 43:1.

30:3. *Things That Easily Remind Us of Heaven* (When We Think of Them Quietly and Fairly).—Duty Done Willingly, 29:5 and 19:7. Work Well Done, 29:3. The Thought of God, 26:6. Christ's Life, Section 11. The Best Men and Women We Have Ever Known, 29:2. Loving the Truth, 57:3. Our Own Hungering for Truer Lives (Motto on Title Page). God's Overruling Providence, 36:1. God's Past Blessings, 55:1. Our Books of Remembrance, 36:2. Life, Home and Happiness; Love, Rest and Patience; Kindness and Children; Suffering and Misfortune; Prayer and Godliness; and many, many others.

HELPFULNESS—OR HELPING OTHERS. (31)

31:1. *Love, Happiness and Growth, How Related.*—Whenever you find that your actions, words and thoughts are, hour by hour and day by day, filled with an earnest, humble wish to help others, in ways

which your own deeper life approves, then you will also find that each new year of life is making you a little [1]wiser and [2]more useful and [3]more happy than you were before.

31:2. *Only a Smile.*—It was only a true hearted smile; but it brightened both lives, and still brightens them; for they often think of it. [SUGGESTED]

31:3. *Cross References.*—Helping Mamma, B:9. Helping Jesus in Heaven, B:12. Helping Each Other in Heaven, 30:1.

31:4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Patience and Love; Cheerfulness and Kindness; Example, Advice and Business; and many others, as nearly every page contains some suggestions on this subject.

HINTS FOR HARD TIMES. (32)

32:1. *How to Start Up the Ladder.*—One fish is better than none; poor pay than no pay. But learn to do your poorly paid job *extra well* and you are sure of a better one later on. For even in this blundering, selfish world the most careless and sleepy workman is almost always the one who goes to the bottom first and *stays there longest;* while the man who loves to do his best for himself and others is sure to gain [1]*influence*, [2]*respect*, [3]*peace of mind*, and often [4]riches as well.

32:2. *Swapping Work.*—Let your neighbors and friends know what kind of work you would like to have done; and let them know what kind of work you can do best; then occasionally *swap work.* Why waste so much time in doing work for which you are not fit, or, perchance, in doing absolutely nothing, just because you cannot get a chance to work for money, or cannot afford to always pay in money? Swapping work with your neighbors may not be as profitable and pleasant as having good steady work for which you are paid in money, or as hiring others by the day or week; but it is a great deal better than doing nothing, or wasting your time and strength in doing the wrong kind of work.

32:3. *Using Idle Moments.*—Don't spend money for what you can make fairly well for yourself in your idle hours. Better work two whole days on it than lie idle two days and then buy it for "only fifty cents." You will be fifty cents richer in cash, and two days richer in that manliness and pluck which bring [1]happiness now and [2]success later.

32:4. *Cross References.*—Don't Always Take the Easiest Way, 22:1. The Bright Side of it All, 36:1. Praying About Little Things, 48:1. In Partnership With God, 5:1 and 2.

32:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Poverty, Suffering and Discouragement; Guess Work and Excuses; Kindness and Love; Carelessness and Opportunities; and many others.

HOME. (33)

33:1. 'Home loving hearts are happiest.' (Longfellow; slightly altered.)

33:2. *Cross References.*—Let your Light Shine at Home, 8:1. The Poor Man's Home, 47:1. "I Have Many Homes," B:2. Loveliness First; Money Second, 42:1. A Lonely Home, 13:1.

33:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Burdens, Cheer and Character; Courtship and Marrying; Patience, Love and Kindness; Guess Work and the Easy Way; Watchfulness, Christlikeness and Prayer; Evenings, Little Things and Rest; Children and THE CHILDREN'S CORNER; and many, many others.

INGRATITUDE. (34)

34:1. *Helps in Bearing It.*—The man who slaps you in the face after you have done him a real kindness (in real love) has not forgotten it; he is only *trying* to forget it. But in spite of all his efforts, the memory of it will remain; and is *sure* to do him good.

34:2. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Carelessness, Temper and Excuses; Unhappiness and Discouragement; Besetting Sins and Doing Wrong.—For opposites see Thankfulness.

KINDNESS. (35)

35:1. *Words Not Enough.*—Kind words are not enough. Your voice and looks and actions must all be kind; which they cannot be, unless you really feel kind.

35:2. *Mistaken Kindness.*—It is not true kindness to let any one, old or young, have what they ask for; unless it is good for them, and can be given without wronging some one else.

35:3. *A Loving Hurt.*—Kind words sometimes hurt fearfully; but it is a helpful hurt. But that is no excuse for unkind words; or for kindly meant ones that hurt one whit more than is really necessary.

Yet if the words were kind, or half kind, let us be *grateful* for them, even if they were unwise.—And if they were unkind, let us forgive them.

35:4. *Cross References.*—Kindly Criticism, 14:1. Kindliness and Patience, 45:1. Kindliness and Fun, 40:1.

35:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*— Cheerfulness, Helpfulness and Home; Patience, Love and Happiness; Watchfulness, Christlikeness and Goodness; and last, but not least, Criticising in Love, 14:1 and 2. For opposites see Unkindness.*

LIFE IN GENERAL. (36)

36:1. *The Bright Side of Life.*—All things work together for good to them that love God, (Rom. 8:28.) Yes, all things. But, the *more* we love Him, the *greater* will be the blessing; for sometimes our love is so small that the blessing cannot be very great. Yet even to the very faintest love *some* blessing is sure to be given.

36:2. *A Book of Remembrance*—It is a great help when [1]*tempted*, [2]lonely, [3]discouraged or [4]perplexed if we can clearly bring to mind some of the bright examples that have cheered and strengthened us in times gone by; and also some of the hopeful things in the lives of those whose faults oftenest discourage and disappoint us. Ordinarily these bright spots easily come to mind, when we set out heartily to hunt for them. But sometimes our memories seem very dull; for discouragement and tempter have silenced them. At such times a little "Book of Remembrance" is very helpful. Several such lie before me now. Some of the owners' favorite references I find repeated on nearly every page, for they like to dwell on them and see them often; but new ones keep coming in, showing that the writers are seeing more and more of the bright side of life. Let me give some of the entries, simply changing or omitting names: ——— Mother's generosity. ———'s earnest prayer meeting talks. Father's patience. Father's past life. Aunt ——'s sweet life. John's forgiveness. J's faithfulness. H. B's help in my work. P's improvement in school. My talk with ——. Our stay in N. These hard times!

If you do not already keep some such book, let me advise you to have one. For though some of this good news has been gathered from plain, two-cent pocket books, and some from fine, gilt-edged and expensively bound ones, it all has the same ring and has helped in many an hour of need. (For Children's Good News Books see B:5.)

*See Index.

36:3. *Cross References.*—Life Is Full of Opportunities, 44:1. Things in Life That Easily Remind Us of Heaven, 30:3. Kindred Topics too numerous to mention.

LITTLE THINGS. (37)

37:1. *Beware How You Call Things Little.*—Be very careful how you use that word LITTLE. For it often happens that things are not as little (in real importance) as they seem.—Above all be careful not to call anything little that is bringing confusion or blackness into your own life or some one else's.

37:2. *Little Minutes.*—A minute a day makes six hours a year; and a minute of folly may bring hours of pain. Then don't dispise the minutes.

37:3. *Spending Time on Little Things.*—Don't stop to *argue* about little things. Don't even stop to *do* them, except when you can see that they will somehow make life brighter and better. But when they *do help*, don't be ashamed to do them, and to do them heartily and well.

37:4. *Cross References.*—Praying About Little Things, 48:1. Little Blessings, 55:1. Doing Wrong in Little Things, 20:2. "Little Things," and Unhappiness, 58:3, Fussing,* and many others.

LONELINESS. (38)

38:1. *A Cure for Loneliness.*—Often bring to mind the dear ones, living and dead, who are now so far away, and ask God to help you to be true [1]to them and [2]to all the good they taught you. Then go quietly about your work (generally some very simple work), and put into it all the wisdom and love you can; and soon you will find that the very memories which make you so sad and weak are becoming a source of gladness and power.

38:2. *Cross References.*—A Lonely Married Life, 13:1. When Cheer Grows Dim, 9:2. Books of Remembrance, 36:2.

38:3. *Kindred Topics.*—See Discouragement and Suffering. Also Mourners.—For opposites see Cheerfulness.

LOVE. (39)

39:1. *Why Do We Love Men?*—We love them for the good there is in them; not because they are perfect.—Then seek out the good, and

*See Index.

think of it oftener than you do, and love will spring up; even if side by side of the good you see a great deal that is wrong and faulty.

39:2. *Love—How to Increase It.*—Love is like wheat; the more of it you plant, in a well-considered, careful way, the more you will have.

39:3. *Cross References.*—Love In Heaven, 30:1. Love as a Motive in Business and Life, 6:1. Love as a Source of Happiness and Growth, 31:1. Love Cannot Be in Vain, 24:1.

39:4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Patience, Prayer and Kindness; Love of God (Section 26) and Helping Others; and, in a somewhat different sense, Courtship, Marrying and Home.—Opposites; Indifference*; Selfishness* and [Hatred.]

MARRYING.—See Courtship and Marrying.

MEANNESS. (40)

40:1. *Meanness and Fun.*—"Don't mistake meanness for fun." True fun makes everybody laugh; meanness makes one person laugh and another cry.

40:2. For Kindred Topics see Unkindness.*

OUR MISFORTUNES. (41)

41:1. *Exaggerating Them.*—Take care not to exaggerate your misfortunes, and many of them will trouble you no longer.

41:2. For full list of Kindred Topics see Suffering.

MONEY. (42)

42:1. *Lovelincss First; Money Second.*—Wherever you find a lovely mother and a loving father, you will *always* find a happy home. But you can *often* find good clothes and plenty of money where there is *no home* and *no gladncss.* For money is a helpful and important tool for him who loves his fellow man; but is always a *disappointing curse* to him who gives it the first place in his life or thought.

42:2. *Cross Reference.*—Our Motives in Business, 6:1.

*See Index.

42:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Business and Work; Hard Times and Poverty; and Opportunities. For dishonest use of money, see Dishonesty; for unwise use of it, see Restlessness and Guess Work.

FOR MOURNERS. (43)

43:1. *Those Who Have Gone Before.*—When little ones and older ones (who have won and deserved our love) go on before us, we may be sure that the same kind God is tenderly caring for them still, according to their need. And the more we learn to *ask His help* and *trust in Him*, the more comfort shall we find in this one simple thought, that He still cares for them and us.

43:2. *Kindred Topics.*—See Suffering and Heaven; and the lists of cross references and kindred topics there given.

NEWSPAPERS.—See Books and Newspapers.

OPPORTUNITIES. (44)

44:1. *Life is Full of Them.*—Yes, life is full of difficulties and hindrances. But it is also full of opportunities. But the trouble is that we turn up our noses at many of the *little* opportunities, and so never become skillful enough to [1]find and [2]catch, and [3]keep and [4]use the larger ones. But if you will use your little openings in an earnest, hearty, wide-awake way, and strive each day to become *a little more skillful* in using them, you are sure to find larger opportunities and a wider influence as the days and years roll by.

44:2. *Cross References.*—How to Start Up the Ladder, 32:1.—Kindred Topics: Life, Doing Right and many others.

PATIENCE. (45)

45:1. A little bit of patience often makes the sunshine come. [ANON]

45:2. *How Patience Grows.*—Patience comes from trying to put in practice under difficulties what little love for others and trust in God we have. Then, if we persevere, the love, the patience and the trust slowly grow stronger, till at last the ripened fruit is very beautiful and very, very sweet.

45:3. *Cross References.*—How to Get God's Help, 5:1. Helps to Self-Control, 2:3. Going Into Repentance Corner, 10:6.

45:4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Godliness, Christlikeness and Goodness; Kindness and Love.—For opposites see Restlessness, Drudgery, Crossness, etc.

POSTPONING. (46)

46:1. *When Proper; When Not.*—Never postpone doing a thing simply because you dread it; but if you have any doubt as to whether it is right or not, then it is your *duty* to *always* postpone it till you see clearly what you ought to do. (For reasons see 19:4.) But though you may and should postpone the matter about which you feel some doubt, you should turn *very quickly* to some other work, (watching, listening, thinking or acting,) which you are *sure* is *right*, or at least an honest, hearty step in the right direction; that by *some other way* you may be led out into the full light and usefulness of a true and busy life.

46:2. *Cross References.*—Choosing the Easiest Way, 22:1. What to Do When in Doubt, 19:4. Postponing the Study of a Thought, 51:1.

46:3. *Kindred Topics.*—Time-Using and Haste.*

POVERTY. (47)

47:1. *Poverty and Happiness.*—Why is it that poor men's homes are often so happy? It is because "The things that help most in making life happy do not cost much money;" [Ram's Horn] and love, care and industry can make a very happy home out of little. For though poverty often brings upon men much unjust, though often unavoidable suffering, and at such times points to a wrong somewhere which should be righted as soon as possible, thank God such suffering can always be turned into a blessing and be one of God's helps in making your life a larger, happier and more useful one!

47:2. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Burdens, Misfortunes and Suffering; Discouragement, Hard Times and Money; Opportunities and Work.

PRAYER. (48)

48:1. *Praying About Little Things.*—"Do you pray about such little things?" she asked, in surprise. "Yes, when they trouble or perplex me; *for that shows that I need help*; and whenever we ask God's help in a really trusting spirit, *or even in true humility*, He always gives it." [ALTERED]

*See Index.

48:2. *Cross References.*—Going to God for Help and Getting It, 5:1. Going to God for Forgiveness, 10:6. Nearness to Christ, 11:1.

48:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Godliness and Watchfulness; Thankfulness and Love.

REST. (49)

49:1. *A Clear and Quiet Brain.*—Never count your time wasted if your working, waiting, resting or playing has given you a *clearer* and *quieter* brain. For without it a man's power to do [1]large, [2]lasting and [3]satisfying work is lessened many fold.

49:2. *Cross References.*—Taking Time to Rest, 56:1. Rest at Evening, 23:1. Not Letting Your Work Drive You, 60:1. Resting In God, 26:5.

49:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Books and Talking; Evenings and Home; Work and Play.*—For healthy opposites see Work; for unhealthy opposites see Restlessness and Overwork.*

RESTLESSNESS. (50)

50:1. *Its Cause and Cure.*—Restlessness may be partially covered up (*and made more dangerous*) but can never be *cured* by taking a larger dose of the things you so restlessly long for. The only way to cure it is to let alone the things you so long for, till you are able to make your decisions more quietly and wisely. For even when harmless and desirable in themselves, your restlessness shows that they have got *misplaced* in your life and thought, and are injuring, and upsetting you instead of helping. (If I were to define restlessness I should say it was a more or less impatient and hasty longing for change.)

50:2. *Cross References.*—"I Haven't Time," 56:1. Little Changes Often Help, 19:4.

50:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Guess Work and Worry*; Loneliness and Drudgery; Carlessness and Besetting Sins. —For best tonics see Watchfulness, Rest and Patience.

RIGHT.—See Doing Right.

*See Index.

STUDY—IN GENERAL. (51)

51:1. *Keeping Thoughts for Future Study.*—Writing a thought down and then laying it away for future study or criticism is a great help to vigorous and far reaching thought. But if you wish for something more than merely superficial influence and hope to really benefit and enlarge men's thoughts and lives, you must also spend much time in rewriting and *correcting* your statements, always taking for each day's study the ones which are clearest at the time, (51:3).

As an important help in doing this I would suggest that you keep a part of your writings and clippings in simple envelopes, and on rather small sheets of paper, so that one part can easily be revised or even rewritten without copying or disfiguring all. Ordinary No. 5 or 6 manilla envelopes and little slips of writing paper, 5 inches by 2¾ or 5 by 2, are the sizes I find most satisfactory.—This way of working will help you in noticing or correcting many inaccuracies which would be sure to pass unnoticed in simply rewriting the article or thought as a whole.

You should use both paper and envelopes freely; only do not mark your envelopes in ink, as your envelope titles will change oftener than any other part of your collection, and you will probably wish to use the same envelopes over and over again. (Cheap letter paper can be got for from ten to fifteen cents a package of five quires; and manilla envelopes for from sixty to seventy-five cents per box of five hundred.)

51:2. *Seed Thoughts.*—Even very crude, unripe and even untrue thoughts, if healthfully suggestive, are often worth writing down and keeping; because of some seed thought which they contain. But they should always be kept by themselves, as mere raw material, and not in the same set of envelopes as your more finished and carefully tested thoughts.

51:3. *Studying the Things That Are Already Clearest.*—If you wish to use your time and strength to the best advantage, you should make it your rule to spend *most* of it in studying and applying more closely the things which are *already* clearest in your mind. If you do this honestly and patiently, (and without mixing in a lot of guess work,) you will find it a sure and quick way of learning yet more and helping others to do the same.

*See Index.

51:4. *Cross References.*—Do Not Always Choose the Easiest Way, 22:1. When to Put it Off, When Not, 46:1. How and When to Use the Truth (and Not Use It,) 57:1. Spending Time on Little Things, 37:3. Studying Lovely Characters, 29:2 and 36:2. A Book of Remembrance, 36:2.

51:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Books, Newspapers and Talk; Truth and Guess Work; Character and Insight.*

SUFFERING. (52)

52:1. *Often Proves a Blessing.*—"That which was bitter to endure is often sweet to remember;" for out of it God has brought a blessing.

52:2. *The Hard Things.*—Don't dwell on the hard things; for it only makes them harder; but rather remember that God can turn them all into blessings, if you will but *willingly* let Him plan for you.

52:3. *Cross References.*—How to Get God's Help in Bearing It, 5:1. Suffering for the Right, 19:7. Christ's Help, 11:1. The Bright Side, 36:1. Choosing the Easiest Way, 22:1.

52:4 *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Burdens and Misfortunes; Mourning and Poverty; Discouragement and Loneliness; and, finally, Self-Sacrifice* and Unhappiness.

TALKING. (53)

53:1. *Talking Too Much and Talking Too Little.*—A man may expose his own [1]ignorance, [2]narrowness or else [3]weakness, both by too much talking and by too little; and wherever you are, you will get far more credit for *what you do know*, if you are careful to avoid both the one extreme of boastful or *unthinking* talkativeness, and the other of proud or frightened silence.

53:2. *Talking Too Long.*—In giving advice, especially when some rebuke is mingled with it, and also in all other attempts to persuade and win men, we should be careful not to talk too long. For a little too much talking may cancel much of the good done by our previous [1]rebuke, [2]advice or [3]explanation.

53:3. *Your Tongue.*—Look out for your tongue; for it can do a great deal of mischief.—Use your tongue; for *if you use it carefully and at the right time*, you can do a great deal of good, be you great or be you small, be you learned or unlearn'd.

*See Index.

53:4. *Cross References.*—Talking and Thinking Too Much, A Source of Weakness, 19:6. The Tones of the Voice, 35:1. Talking with Mamma, B:18.

53:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Advice, Criticism and Gossip; Rest and Prayer; Truth and Study; Books, Home and Evenings.

TEMPER. (54)

54;1. *How to Tame a Quick Temper.*—Is there any cure for a quick temper? Yes, there is; a slow one, but a very sure one, namely; fighting it out the same day *with yourself* (explained more fully in Section 2:2.) This always results in *slowly* but surely giving a man control of even the worst temper. Nor do I know of any other cure. But since this is so effective, and so helpful in many other ways, no fair-minded man can complain at its slowness.

54:2. *Two Fools Instead of One.*—When another man acts like a fool in your presence, you will be very apt to see it, and it *may* be proper to say that he is acting like a fool, *provided your saying it will do anybody any good.* But if you get all stirred up or cross in seeing, or saying it, then it only proves that there are two fools instead of one, and you ought to make haste to catch and tame the one nearest home, the one over whom you have most authority. Then catch the other, if you can; but not till then.

54:3. *Cross References.*—Fighting It Out The Same Day, 2:2. Helps in Regaining Your Self-Control, 2:3.

54.4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Crossness and Anger; Drudgery and Unfriendly Criticism, 14:2 and 3; Carelessness and Unhappiness; Watchfulness and Besetting Sins.

THANKFULNESS. (55)

55:1. *Our Little Blessings.*—When we learn to thankfully notice the little blessings of life, their number steadily increases, and each becomes sweeter and greater than it has ever been before.

55:2. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Cheerfulness, Patience and Love.—Its opposite, Ingratitude.

TIME-USING. (56)

56:1 "*I Haven't Time.*"—Suppose a person were to say "I haven't time to eat and sleep," and were to go without sleep or food for a few days. How would it work? Would he really save time and accomplish more? Yet nearly all of us make just such mistakes as this

often enough and long enough to keep our minds and stomachs, our nerves and brains all out of order. Let me ask you, Does it pay? Do we accomplish more by so doing? Oh no; we *work harder, but accomplish less.* The only safe rule is to *never* say, "I haven't time," except when duty very plainly approves of your so doing, or calls you elsewhere. A moment's rest or prayer, a little more watching, a little more care in *making sure you're doing right* will save you from many a sad mistake, and will also make you work so much faster and more skillfully later on, that, though you have *less* time, you accomplish *more.* Remember this, and you will save yourself and others many a needless heart-ache and back ache.

56:2. *Cross References.*—A Minute a Day, 37:2. Time versus Money, 32:3. Spending Time on Little Things, 37:3. Doing Too Much, 60:1.

56:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Hints for Hard Times, Work, Rest and Postponing; and, in the index, Hurry and Haste.

TRUTH. (57)

57:1. *How and When to Use the Truth.*—"It's true." Yes; but does it do you any good to think and talk about it? For truth, like medicine and like food, cannot help you, if you use it carelessly, *or even at the wrong time.* So learn to *let alone* some true things, and to use others only in small doses. But be [1]honest, [2]wise and [3]careful in your choice; and be careful not to despise the truths and half-truths for which you have no present use; and also be careful not to despise a truth because it has been very blunderingly stated, or because some of those who talk about it are insincere, and some very stupid. For some of the very truths which are oftenest twisted, counterfeited and misunderstood are the most helpful to an honest, earnest lover of truth and right.

57:2. *How to Increase its Power.*—The more clearly and truly and wisely you can state a truth, the more lives it will reach and the more deeply it will influence those that it does reach. Do not be contented with the mere assertion that what you say is true. The question is whether others will *see* that it is true; and *how clearly* will they see it? and again will your manner of stating and presenting it make them any more likely to see and profit by it?

57:3. *A Word of Cheer for Truth Lovers.*—He that loveth truth shall find more and more of it; slowly sometimes, but very surely. [SELECTED]

57:4. *Cross References.*—True Gossip, 27:1. Using Truth Unwisely, 57:1. How Honest Men May Differ, 16:1. Apparent Confusion of Truth, 19:5.

57:5. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Watchfulness, Insight* and Right; Study and Talk; Books and Newspapers; and Consequences.—Its opposites are [Ignorance and Falsehood;] Excuses and Guess Work.

UNHAPPINESS. (58)

58:1. *Casting the Blame on Others.*—Unhappy people often try to persuade themselves and others that some one else is to be blame for their being so unhappy; and it is in part true. But *only in part*; for though *most* forms of suffering may come upon us, because of the wrong doing of others, unhappiness is a marked exception and always shows that in some way or other *we* are doing wrong ourselves. And just as soon as you turn round and do *your part* properly, you will find that no man or woman under heaven, not even your worst enemy or unwisest friend, can force upon you that bitterest of all pains which we call unhappiness, by the side of which all other suffering is a very little thing.

58:2. *Unhappy Christians.*—But, says some one, good people are often unhappy over the doings of others when they don't seem to be doing anything wrong themselves. Yes; but look more closely and you will find that though trying hard to do what they *call right*, they are at some point distrusting God, or else resisting the real leadings of their own healthier, wiser self. For what we *call* right and honestly *think* right is often but a very faulty statement of our present duty; and can bring no large blessing, however well meant, unless it is corrected and completed by the more silent *present* leadings of conscience and of God.

58:3. "*One Little Thing.*"—Many a man who calls himself good and really does try hard to do right in most things, is very unhappy much of the time because of some *one* thing which he persists in doing; though he knows (down in his heart) that it is selfish, wrong, unwise or dishonest.

58.4. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Guess Work and Carelessness; Dishonesty and Wrong Doing; Excuses and Ingratitude.—For opposites, see Happiness.

WATCHFULNESS. (59)

59:1. *Watchfulness and Worry.*—A happy, trustful life will be full of watchfulness; but not of worry. For watchfulness comes from an eager enthusiasm to do *our part*, and do it well; while worry comes

*See Index.

from trying to plan out work which God in his greater wisdom never meant we should touch at all, or at least does not wish to have us touch *now*.

59:2. *Cross References.*—How to Get More Trust in God, 26:6. Our Partnership with God, 5:1. But Just What is God's Part, 5:2. Doing Little Things Heartily, 37:3. Why Do We So Often Miss Our Opportunities, 44:1.

59:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Patience and Doing Right; Working and Praying.—For opposites see Carelessness, Guess Work, and [Pride].

WORK. (60)

60:1. "*It Must Be Done.*"—To see clearly that a piece of work is needed and that it is our privilege or duty to do it, and do it now, always makes the work easier. But if you have an anxious, excited or desperate feeling that it MUST be done, regardless of consequences, then you may be sure that you are going at it in a wrong and foolish way. "But," you say, "what can I do? The work must be done." I reply: Take time to [1]pray over it, and to [2]collect your wits a bit, for you can *always* spare that much time (Section 56:1), and one of four things will happen: Either you will find that you are mistaken and the work need not be done at all; or, secondly, that God is not willing that *you* should do it; or, thirdly, that you should not do it *now*, or at least, not *all* of it; or, fourthly, you will find some way of making it easier.

60:2. *Cross References.*—Work and Play, How Related, B:15. Shall the Children Work? 10:2. Shall I Choose the Easiest? 22:1. Working for Poor Pay, 32:1. Swapping Work, 32:2. Choosing Your Work in Too Great a Hurry, 56:1. Finding Happiness in Your Work, 29:3. Work in Heaven, 30:1.

60:3. *Kindred Topics in Other Parts of the Book.*—Opportunities and Business; Overwork* and Drudgery; Burdens and Rest; Carelessness and Guess Work; Time-Using and Watchfulness. Also Hints for Hard Times.

WRONG DOING.—See Doing Wrong.

*See Index.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

BIBLE VERSES FOR JOHNNIE.

B:1. "*Let Your Light Shine.*"—Johnnie is a very little boy, but he likes to talk and "study;" so his papa is making a book of Bible Verses for him to learn. Here is one of them: "Let your light shine." It is found in Matthew 5:16. Can you find it?

B:2. "*My Father's House.*"—Johnnie's next verse is in John 14: 1 to 3 That's a funny name for a book, isn't it? But it's a nice book, and here's the verse: "In my Father's house are many homes." Some of these homes are in heaven; and some down here; for Jesus loves to come and "*make his home*" with those who love Him. (See John 14:23.)

B:3. *Trusting and Doing.*—Still another of Johnnie's verses is in Psalm 37:3—"Trust in the Lord and do good." It is one his grandma found for him. And what does it mean? It means that God will help you, every day, and give you all that's really good for you that day. So you need not ever be afraid. But it also says that you must DO SOMETHING; doing good every day, and *loving* what is good, even if you can't do much.

B:4. We hope some time to have a whole big book of these Bible Verses for Children. This is only the beginning. But if you and your mamma can hunt up some more and send me a part of them, I shall be very glad. What I want is verses that even little bits of boys and girls can understand pretty well. Your friend,

Grinnell, Iowa. W. H. WHEELER.

BOOKS AND PAPERS.

B:5. "*Something Nice.*"—Little Rose has a book which she calls "Something Nice." Can you guess what's in it? Nice things about other folks. She can't write herself; but tells her mamma and papa what to write and they put it down. Three of her little entries I will

copy for you to see: Mamma helps papa; Robby "dited;" and Mayo's nice. Some of the nicest ones she gets down a great many times. I have seen many such books; perhaps some day you'll let me see yours. MR. EDITOR.

B:6. *Johnnie's Writing Desk.*—Johnnie has a little box, full of little bits of papers which he calls his writing desk; and he often gets it out and writes letters and 'tories for Grandma, Grandpa, Auntie Emily and Auntie May. Nobody can read Johnnie's stories; but it's easy to *guess* what they mean; and they do Johnnie lots of good.

CROSSNESS.

B:7. *Too Much Pepper.*—When a boy or girl gets cross he has put too much pepper in the soup, and makes a great many people suffer. *But he always suffers most*; for there is sure to be three times as much pepper in his soup as in anybody else's.

B:8. *James' Testimony.*—"When I get cross I am always ashamed of myself afterwards."

HELPING SOMEBODY.

B:9. *Helping Mamma.*—Mamma helps me and I help mamma; that's the way to be happy.

B:10. *Washing Dishes.*—Johnnie and I wash dishes for mother, and little Lucy helps wipe them. CLARENCE.

B:11. *Taking Care of Papa.*—One day when papa was sick, baby Esther took her little doll-quilt and covered him up. Then she gave him a kiss and said, "Now feel better;" and papa laughed and said he really did feel better. Shouldn't you think he would?

B:12. *Helping Jesus in Heaven.*—Little Stella loved to help others here; and now she is in heaven helping Jesus.

OBEYING.

B:13. *Obeying Mamma Quickly.*—Ethel likes to jump and play; but when her mamma calls her she goes very quickly.

B:14. *Obeying My Mother.*—My mother says she isn't perfect; and makes mistakes. But I know she's real nice and knows a great deal more than I do. That's why I ought to be glad to do what she tells me to; and that's why she *makes me* do it, so that I may be as nice as she is and perhaps a little nicer, when I grow up. That's what she says. ROLLO.

PLAY.

B:15. *Work and Play.*—I like play and mother says that play is one kind of work, real helpful work. Only it's the easiest kind; and she says that if I want to be a good, strong woman, I must do some hard work too; some hard work and some easy work, and some *very easy* work (or play), and do them all nicely. BESSIE.

B:16. *Making a Noise.*—Yes, my boy, make plenty of noise; it's good for boys; only don't make it except when mother says you may.

SLEEPING.

B:17. *Early to Bed.*—If I don't get sleep enough, it makes me cross; and if I stay in bed when I ought to get up and go to work, it makes me cross. So "Early to bed and quick to rise" is my motto for bed time and morning. JAMES.

TALKING WITH MAMMA.

B:18. *Bible Stories for Baby.*—When little Minnie was two years old, her mamma used often to sing to her:

Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but he is strong.

And baby would say, "Desus dove baby," and "Baby dove mamma;" and then she would ask for some stories about Jesus. In simple, baby talk the stories sounded funny; but baby liked them, and mamma liked them, and papa liked them too.

THINKING OF OTHERS.

B:19. *Shut the Door.*—Shut the door, when you come in and when you go out; for mamma's feet are not as warm as yours.

WORK.

B:20. *Cooking.*—I am learning to cook; and on Saturdays I have full charge of the dinner and supper. GRACIE FREEMAN.

B:21. *Selling Kindlings.*—Father bought half a cord of soft wood for me; then I sawed and split it and sold it for kindlings. PETER.

B:22. *Working for Music Lessons.*—Mollie Brown helps Mrs. King three hours every Saturday, and gets a music lesson in return.

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TO THE BETTER WAY

DEFINITIONS are in italics.

NUMBERS refer to sections and paragraphs.

B refers to the CHILDREN'S CORNER, which begins on Page 36.

KINDRED TOPICS (or K Ts) refer the reader to topics *in other parts of the book* which may help him in his studies.

CAPITALS.—Where single words (like Love and Truth) are spelled with a capital, they are section titles; but when capitals are *not used* (as in worry and haste), the reference can be found only by looking first in the index.

BRACKETS.—Topics in brackets—e. g. [Pride]—have not as yet been discussed in any part of the book; but may be helpful to the reader.

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K Ts Crossness, and other parts of Section 14.
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K Ts Little Things and Guess Work.
Conscience (*or the leadings of our deeper life*).....See 19:1
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Conscientiousness (*an habitual wish to do right.*)
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Contentment (in its higher forms)—
K Ts Godliness, Thankfulness, Doing Right and Happiness.
Controversy—
K Ts discussion and Criticising.
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K Ts Love, Cheerfulness, Kindness, Thankfulness and Patience.
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Curiosity (*a rather aimless desire for knowledge*; often unhealthy, but not always).
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K Ts, Mourners, Suffering and Heaven.
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K Ts, Burdens, Drudgery, Poverty, Suffering, etc,
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See misunderstandings.
Disappointments—
K Ts, Suffering, Misfortunes, and often Unhappiness and Crossness.
Disapproval—
Just Disapproval versus Anger.. 2:1
For K Ts see Temper and Criticising.
Discernment—See "clear insight."
Discipline—See punishment.
Discomfort—
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Discontent—
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K Ts, Talking, logic and word-proof.
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K Ts, Love, Watchfulness, hope; and a sense of the importance of one's work.
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A Clear and Quiet Brain..... 49:1
Also health.
Enjoyment—
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Enjoying God..... 26:7
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Enthusiasm (*strong love for one's work*)—Also see earnestness.
Envelopes—
For use in classifying thoughts.. 51:1
Ephesians (Eph. 4:26)..... 2:1
Errors—See mistakes.
Ethics (*the science and theory of right*)—
Enables us to see more quickly where duty *probably* lies; but taken alone is not a safe guide in actually deciding what to do 19:1 and 2
Evasion (*trying to dodge a disagreeable truth or charge instead of manfully facing it*)—
K Ts, Guess Work, fear and often selfishness. Also see Excuses.
Evenings— SECTION 23.
How to Use Them..... 23:1
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Evil—
For K Ts see Wrong Doing and Suffering; for the word is used in these two very different senses.
Exaggerating Our Misfortunes.... 41:1
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K T, evasion.
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K Ts, plans and hopes.
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K Ts, Kindness, Love and justice.
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K Ts, Patience (esp. 45:2) and Love of Right, (Section 19.)
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K Ts, Restlessness and Guess Work.
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When Shall I Follow It?..... 1:1
Fatalism—See pessimism.
Fathers—See Home and Children.
Faults—Our Own and Others'—
(Look for the ones you specially need to study.)
Also see Criticising.
Fault Finding.....14:3
Fear—(*a* [1]*proper or* [2]*improper drawing back from pain.*)
Study Suffering and the list of K Ts there given; esp. Burdens—Great and Small.
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Fornication—See sexual sins.
Fraud—See Dishonesty.
Fretfulness (*crossness caused in part by sickness*)—
For Treatment (even in adults) see 10:3 and 17:1.
Friendliness—
K Ts, generally Kindness and Love; but sometimes selfishness, wholly or in part.
Friendship—
The Friendship of Jesus..... 11:1
Think of Your Best Friends Often 29:2
Fun—Meanness and Fun..... 40:1
Fussing (*spending time unprofitably and* ANXIOUSLY *on little things*)
Its Cure.....60:1 and 37:3
Future—The Future—See hope.
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K Ts, Restlessness and Abuse of Money, (Sections 50 and 42).
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Generosity (has two meanings)—
K Ts, Money and forgiveness.
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K Ts, tenderness and Kindness.
Getting Cross—See Crossness.
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Gladness—
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K Ts, Goodness, Happiness and Love.
Gloominess—
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God—
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How to Find God..... 26:6
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Goodness and Happiness, How Related? 29:1
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K Ts, Kindness and Benevolence.

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Growth—
As a Reward of Love..... 31:1
K Ts, Study, Work, Rest, Home, Little Things and many others.

Grumbling—See fault finding.

Guess Work— SECTION 28.
Avoid It in Life..... 28:1
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How Good Ones Grow..... 57:3
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See Suffering, Hard Times, Poverty, etc.

Hard Things—Dwelling on Them.. 52:2

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Study Temper, Anger, rebuke and punishment.

Haste (*too much hurry*)—
"I Haven't Time"..... 56:1
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Hindrances—See difficulties.

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In Partnership with God..... 5:1
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Swapping Work..... 32:2
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Holiness (*giving one's self up* EAGERLY *to God's service and to trusting and obeying Him*)—
K Ts, Godliness, Christlikeness and Prayer.

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Home Loving Hearts 33:1
"I Have Many Homes"..... B:2
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Hope and Hopefulness—
Fearlessly Doing Right Brings Hope..... 29:5
K Ts, Trust in God (Section 26), Doing Right, Love and Cheerfulness. Also energy.

How to Start Up the Ladder..... 32:1

Hungering for Righteousness—
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Hurry (*may be either proper or improper*)—
For Improper Hurry see haste.

"I Can't Help It"..... 3:1

"I Can't Tell What's Right"..... 19:4

"I Did It Just for Fun..... 40:1

"I Haven't Time"..... 56:1

"I Have No Chances"..... 44:1

"I've Got To"..... 60:1

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Ideals—
K Ts, Truth, Guess Work and hope.

Idleness—
Idle Hands..... 10:1
Idle Moments..... 32:3
Proper Postponing, No Excuse for Idleness..... 46:1

Impatience—
K Ts, Restlessness, Drudgery, Temper, haste, etc.

Imperfection—Seeing It.
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Impetuosity—
K Ts, haste and Guess Work.

Importance of Things Often Greater Than It Seems..... 37:1

Imprudence—
K Ts, Guess Work, Carelessness, Restlessness, overwork, etc.

Impulsiveness—
See Guess Work and haste.

Impurity—See sexual sins.

Inaccuracy—
K Ts, Guess Work, haste or Carelessness.

Inclination—See longing.

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Indecision (*unwillingness to definitely face a difficulty and decide what the next step shall be*)
K Ts, Postponing, Guess Work, fear and too much or else *untimely* thinking.
Indifference—
K Ts, [Ignorance], Carelessness or else selfishness and Ingratitude.
Indignation—See Anger.
Indiscretion—
K Ts, Guess Work and haste.
Industry (or *love of work*)—
K Ts, Work and Patience.
Inexperienced Little Neighbors.... 10:5
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Unaccountable Crossness..... 10:3
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Inference—See word-proof.
Infidelity—
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K Ts, negation, Criticising, beliefs, etc.
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Also see Example.
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Injustice—See justice.
Insight—See "clear insight."
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Interest—Loss of
K Ts, Drudgery and need of Rest.
Intuition—
K Ts, conscience and insight.
Invalids—See sickness.
Irksomeness—See Drudgery.
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K Ts, Guess Work, fear, Postponing, and not-well-controlled [Thoughtfulness].
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K Ts, Temper, Crossness and sickness.
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"It's True, Anyway.....57:1 and 27:1
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Judging Others—See Criticising.
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For Good Judgment see "clear insight."
For unsafe judgment, see mere "word proof."
Justice (in thought and act)—
Study Criticising, Differences of Opinion and Right.
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Kindliness and Patience..... 45:1
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K Ts, "clear insight" and Truth.
Opposites, Guess Work and [Ignorance.]
Also see opinions and [Half-Truths.]
Labor—See Work.
Ladder—
How to Start Up the Ladder..... 32:1
Language—
See Study, word-proofs, Talking, etc.
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Laziness—
K Ts, Drudgery, Guess Work and Carelessness.
Leadership—K T, influence.

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Learning—
Learning to Cook..... B:20
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Doing Wrong in Little Things... 20:2
Little Blessings..... 55:1
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"Little Things" and Unhappiness 58:3
Praying About Little Things.... 48:1
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Logic—
K Ts, Truth, explanation, [Emphasis,] probability and Guess Work.
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Lust—See sexual sins.
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Manners—See politeness.
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K Ts, See Home.
Masturbation—See sexual sins.
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Matthew 5:6. See Title Page.
" 5:8..... 8:2
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Meanness— SECTION 40
Meanness and Fun..... 40:1
For K Ts, see unkindness.
Melancholy—
Study section on Cheerfulness.
Also see blues and pessimism.
Memory—
One Way of Improving It..... 4:1
Merit Is Always Recognized—
Gladly Though Often Silently... 24:1
Or Reluctantly But Really..... 34:1
Methodicalness (*an unwise mixing together of thought work and active work, so that you cannot do as well in either*)—
Simply Yes or No..... 19:2
Using Truth at the Wrong Time 57:1
K Ts, [unrestrained thoughtfulness or love of work.]
Does It Pay?..... 20:1
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A Minute a Day..... 37:2
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K Ts, Guess Work, Carelessness, haste, Excuses and, in part, mere [Ignorance].
Misunderstandings—
Study Temper, Patience and Doing Right.
Other K Ts are Criticising, Crossness, Differences of Opinion, Drudgery, Ingratitude, Misfortunes and Talking Too Much.
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Moods—
K Ts, Temper, Crossness, Guess Work and Unhappiness.
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Mourners— SECTION 43.
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Music Lessons, Working for..... B:22
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Need Careful Testing..... 60:1
"My Father's House"..... B:2
Narcotics—See smoking and opium.
Narrowness—
Needs Patience, pity, time and [training].
K Ts, [Ignorance] and bigotry.
Naturalness—
K Ts, insight and Right.
Nearness to Christ..... 11:1
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K Ts, Criticising and Restlessness.
Negligence—See Carelessness.
Nervousness—
K Ts, over-work, 60:1, and Wrong Doing (19:1;) *often in some very little thing.*
News—
K Ts, Newspapers, Truth and Gossip.
Also see "good news."
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For K Ts, see Books and Gossip.
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Noble (*lovely, strong and true, both in great things and in small.*)—
K Ts, Godliness, Doing Right, Happiness, loveliness, Home, Character, Life and many others.
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K Ts, fun and Rest.
Nonsense (real)—
K Ts, [Ignorance] and Guess Work.
Obedience to God—See Godliness.
Obeying Mamma Quickly..... B:13
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Obstinacy—
K Ts, Crossness, Temper, [Conceit] and Besetting Sins.
Old Age—
Study Godliness, Happiness, Rest, loveliness, Love, etc.
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K Ts, Advice, Books, Gossip, Guess Work, Talking, Truth and Study.
Opium—
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Opportunities— SECTION 44.
Life Is Full of Them..... 44:1
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K Ts; almost every page points out some.

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Optimism (*habitually hoping for the best and believing that good is overcoming evil.*)—
K Ts, Godliness, Goodness and insight, (esp. 26:6 and 29:5;) though often mixed in THOUGHT with much Guess Work and [Ignorance].
Also see pessimism.
Overwork—
"I've Got To".....60:1 and 56:1
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See Burdens—Great and Small, Crossness, Misfortunes, Suffering, Unhappiness, and *something* on nearly every page.
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K Ts, Temper, Loneliness and sexual sins.
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K Ts, Guess Work, haste and Patience.
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K Ts, Talking, word-proofs, etc.
Pessimism (*believing that good cannot overcome evil, or at least is not doing it now*)—
Causes: too much haste, too much guess work, and loss of trust and insight. See esp. 26:6.
Also see Guess Work, haste, insight and optimism.
Pettiness (*useless expenditure of time and thought on little things*) See 37:3.
Also see fussing and Little Things.
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Profanity—
K Ts, Temper, Unhappiness and often [Conceit.] Also see Besetting Sins.
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K Ts, Happiness, Cheerfulness and pleasure.
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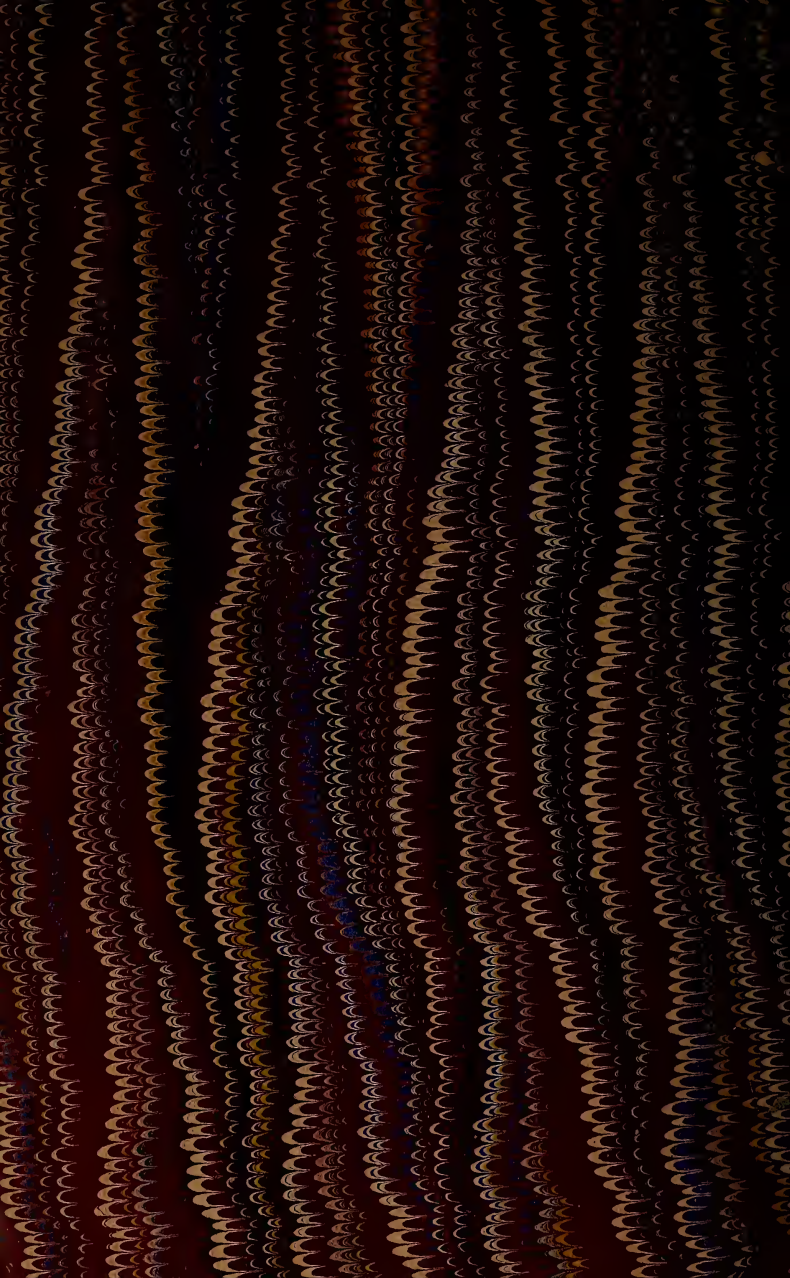

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